

## Message Text

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51

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

      DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 /050 W

----- 088624

R 281208Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4530

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 6753

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, LE

SUBJECT: CIVIL AIR NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 120558

1. I AM MORE THAN A LITTLE PUZZLED BY BY THE DEPARTMENT'S  
REPLY (REFTEL) TO BEIRUT 6308, CONCERNING THE TIMING  
AND  
THE VENUE OF THE FORTHCOMING AIR NEGOTIATIONS.

2. IN A NOTE OF JANUARY 6 (BEIRUT 00181), THE GOL FORMALLY  
PROPOSED BEGINNING CONSULTATIONS IN BEIRUT AT SOME SUITABLE  
TIME DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1975.

3. ON FEBRUARY 3 WE FORMALLY REPLIED (IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
OMSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN STATE 021634) THAT "WHILE  
THE  
U.S., RECOGNIZES THE DESIRABILITY OF CONSULTATIONS IN  
ADVANCE OF AGREED DEADLINE OF SEPTEMBEH 30, 1975, THE U.S.  
WAS UNABLE TO MEET EIRLIER THAN LATE SPRING OR EARLY  
SUMMER". NO OGECTION WAS MADE TO BEIRUT AS THE VENUE  
IN OUR FORMAL REPLY AND IT COULD BE RATIONALLY ASSUMED  
THEREFORE THAT THE PROPOSED VENUE WAS ACCEPTABLE.

4. REPLYING IN TURN TO OUR REPLY, FIRST INFORMALLY  
ON APRIL 7 (BEIRUT 4436) AND THEN FORMALLY ON MAY 17  
(BEIRUT 6308), THE LEBANESE AUTHORITIES ACCEPTED OUR  
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PROPOSAL, CALLING FOR A DATE IN JUNE OR JULY, I.E.,

LATE SPRING OR EARLY SUMMER, AS WE  
SUGGESTED. RATHER  
THAN CONCURRING WITH THIS, HOWEVER, WE ARE NOW INSTRUCTED  
TO INFORM THE GOL THAT WE WANT TO MEET ON SEPTEMBER 2,  
AND NOT IN BEIRUT, BUT IN WASHINGTON.

5. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, THESE NEGOTIATIONS ARE  
GOING TO BE DIFFICULT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. TO RENEGE  
NOW ON WHAT THE LEBANESE WOULD CONSIDER A COMMITMENT RE  
TIME AND VENUE DOES NOT APPEAR TO US THE HEIGHT OF WISDOM.

WE STONGLY RECOMMEND THEREFORE  
THAT WE GIVE THE LEBANESE  
WHAT THEY REQUESTED RE A FIRM DATE FOR THE CONVENING OF THE  
NEGOTIATIONS IN BEIRUT IN JULY. IF THE DEPARTMENT INSISTS  
ON REQUESTING THAT NEGOTIATIONS BE HELD IN WASHINGTON  
SEPTEMBER 2, THE LEBANESE, NOT TO MENTION OURSELVES, ARE  
ENTITLED TO A FULL EXPLANATION AS TO WHY WE MUST CHANGE  
OUR POSITION AT THIS LATE DATE.  
GODLEY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL AVIATION, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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